

MEETING OF

THE DELAWARE AGRICULTURAL LANDS PRESERVATION FOUNDATION

A meeting of the Delaware Agricultural Lands Preservation Foundation was held at the Delaware Department of Agriculture, 2320 S. DuPont Hwy. Dover, Delaware, January 10, 2007, with the following members in attendance:

Robert F. Garey, Chairman	Mark Davis (representing Michael T. Scuse, Secretary of Agriculture)
William Vanderwende, Vice Chairman	Kevin Coyle (representing John Hughes, Secretary of DNREC)
Lyn Davenport, Secretary	Ann Visalli, Deputy State Treasurer (representing Jack Markell, State Treasurer)
W. Allen Jones, Treasurer	

Absent: Theodore P. Bobola, Jr., G. Ray Staats, and Alden Hopkins.

The following staff members were in attendance: Scott Blaier, Howard Mesick, Milton Melendez, Danielle Klosowski, Cathy Mesick,, and Robin West.

Others in attendance: F. Michael Parkowski, and Mr. Phil Tuthill.

Chairman Garey opened the meeting at 8:34 a.m. with prayer.

I. Progress Report:

Milton Melendez informed the Board that we have a total of 681 farms in preservation districts totaling 146,036 acres, with a total of 462 farms under agricultural easements totaling 82,210 acres at a cost of \$119,084,066. For PDR 12 there are a total of 106 farms comprising 13,338 acres with a value of \$207,256,716 to be considered for purchase of development rights.

Chairman Garey told the Board how the Farm Bureau is trying to get more money for farmland preservation so it would no longer be necessary to have landowners discount on their development rights. Discussion centered on how to pick farms if there is no discount involved.

II. Expansion Eligibility & Final Approval:

1. Jarman Expansion of the Whitby Farms LP District, ID#K-06-12-067I. After discussion, **William Vanderwende moved to accept for eligibility/final approval the Jarman Expansion of the Whitby Farms LP District, seconded by Kevin Coyle. Motion unanimously approved.**
2. Springfield Historic Expansion of the Moore-Abbott Farms District, ID#S-06-12-052I. After discussion, **Lyn Davenport moved to accept for eligibility/final approval the Springfield Historic Expansion of the Moore, seconded by Kevin Coyle. Motion unanimously approved.**
3. Speicher Expansion #1 of the Elmer-Wink Vanderwende District, ID#S-06-12-149F. After discussion, **Kevin Coyle moved to accept for eligibility/final approval the Speicher Expansion #1 of the Elmer-Wink Vanderwende District, seconded by Lyn Davenport. Motion approved. Mr. William Vanderwende abstained from voting because of conflict of interest.**
4. Speicher Expansion #2 of the Elmer-Wink Vanderwende District, ID#S-06-12-149G. After discussion, **Allen Jones moved to accept for eligibility/final approval the Speicher Expansion #2 of the Elmer-Wink Vanderwende District, seconded by Kevin Coyle. Motion approved. Mr. William Vanderwende abstained from voting because of conflict of interest.**

III. Forestland Preservation Areas Eligibility & Final Approval:

1. Ricker Forestland Preservation Area, ID#F-K-06-11-044M. After discussion, **William Vanderwende moved to accept for eligibility/final approval the Ricker Forestland Preservation Area, seconded by Lyn Davenport. Motion unanimously approved.**

2. Masten Holdings, Inc. Forestland Preservation Area, ID#F-K-06-11-001G. After discussion, **Allen Jones moved to accept for eligibility/final approval the Masten Holdings, Inc. Forestland Preservation Area, seconded by Kevin Coyle. Motion unanimously approved.**

IV. Public Comments – Mr. Phil Tuthill informed the Board that Kent County has the most farms in the preservation program of all the Counties in Delaware. He told the Board that he has tried to get Kent County to increase the amount of money put into the preservation program. Discussion continued of how much money would possibly be coming from Sussex County for farmland preservation.

V. Minutes - Chairman Garey asked if there were additions or corrections to the December 13, 2006 minutes. Receiving no additions or corrections to the minutes, **Kevin Coyle moved the minutes be approved, seconded by Ann Visalli. Motion unanimously approved.**

VI. Financial Highlights:

Cathy Mesick informed the Foundation Board that we had, as of December 31, 2006, \$28,188.15 in the Foundation's checking account. The Foundation's interest bearing State of Delaware account had a balance of \$351,560.88. We received \$281.55 revenue for the month of December made up of rollback taxes from New Castle and Sussex Counties. Expenditures for the month of December totaled \$7,360.81. After discussion, **William Vanderwende moved to accept the Financial Report as presented, seconded by Ann Visalli. Motion unanimously approved.**

VII. Executive Session – There was no need for an Executive Session.

VIII. Other Business:

1. Adoption of Financial Policies & Procedures

Howard Mesick presented the financial policies and procedures to the Board. These policies and procedures were requested to be placed in writing by the Auditor's Office. Ann Visalli mentioned that these must be kept updated as necessary. After discussion, **Ann Visalli moved to approve the internal controls as presented, seconded by Lyn Davenport. Motion unanimously approved**

William Vanderwende questioned Mike Parkowski about the Wilson farm in Bridgeville. Discussion followed.

IX. Adjournment

As there was no further business to come before the Foundation, the meeting adjourned at 9:55 a.m. The next meeting of the Foundation will be held on February 14, 2007 at the Delaware Department of Agriculture, beginning at 8:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lyn Davenport
Secretary